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79 COPENHAGEN 357

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PAGE 01 COPENH 00857 121948Z

ACTION EURE-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 H-02
HA-05 /094 W

-----011281 130549Z /21

R 121627Z FEB 79

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7844

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 0857

E O 12065: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, UR, UY, DA

SUBJ: POLE RESIDENT IN DENMARK POSSIBLY INSTIGATOR OF
OGURTSOV/MASSERA EXCHANGE PROPOSAL

REF: COPENHAGEN 0545

1. FROM A STORY IN FEB 11 POLITIKEN (LEFT OF CENTER),
IT APPEARS THAT THE INITIATIVE FOR A POSSIBLE EXCHANGE OF
THE URUGUAYAN COMMUNIST JOSE LUIS MASSERA FOR THE SOVIET
DISSIDENT PRISONER IGOR OGURTSOV (REFTEL) CAME FROM THE
EXILE POLE BERNARD KARAWATZKI, WHO HAS BEEN A RESIDENT OF
DENMARK SINCE 1971. ALTHOUGH A POLE, KARAWATZKI SPENT 17
YEARS IN THE SOVIET UNION AND WAS A CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND
OF OGURTSOV. KARAWATZKI HAS BEEN TRYING TO HELP HIS FRIEND
FOR EIGHT YEARS, POLITIKEN SAYS.

2. IN 1967 OGURTSOV WAS SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS IN PRISON AND
FIVE YEARS IN BANISHMENT: HE IS NOW IN THE PERMASKAYA ORLAST
PRISON AND SERIOUSLY ILL, ACCORDING TO KARAWATZKI. OGURTSOV
WAS FOUND GUILTY OF TREASON AS THE HEAD OF THE
"RUSSIAN'S SOCIALIST-CHRISTIAN SOCIETY FOR THE
LIBERATION OF THE PEOPLE", AN ORGANIZATION WHICH

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PAGE 02 COPENH 00857 121348Z

ARGUES THAT COMMUNISM COULD BE FOUGHT ONLY BY VIOLENT
MEANS. KARAWATZKI'S TELEPHONE CALL TO OGURTSOV'S
PARENTS FEB 10 WITH THE HELP OF POLITIKEN, WAS
BROKEN OFF AND COULD NOT BE REESTABLISHED RIGHT AFTER
KARAWATZKI ASKED IF THE PARENTS' PLANNED VISIT TO
THEIR SON'S PRISON THIS MONTH HAD BEEN POSSIBLE.
3. KARAWATZKI FIRST WENT TO AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL FOR
HELP, BUT OGURTSOV'S ACCEPTANCE OF VIOLENCE AS A MEANS
IN HIS STRUGGLE MEANT THAT AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WAS
UNABLE TO ASSIST.

4. KARAWATZKI TOLD POLITIKEN THAT IF THE PRISONER
EXCHANGE FAILS, THERE WILL BE A "GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO
HELP NOT ONLY OGURTSOV, BUT THOUSANDS OF POLITICAL
PRISONERS IN THE USSR IN CONNECTION WITH THE OLYMPIC
GAMES NEXT YEAR". HE SAYS THAT IF ATHLETES FROM THE
WESTERN WORLD AND THE WESTERN GOVTS APPLY PRESSURE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <i>J. Man</i>	DATE <i>4/29/80</i>
RDS ☐ or XJS ☐ EXT. DATE	REASON(S)
TS AUTH.	ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
	DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒
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	PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

PAGE 1

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ON THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THEY
WOULD GRANT AN AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL
PRISONERS.

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PAGE 2

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